



Greeting the Saints at Rome

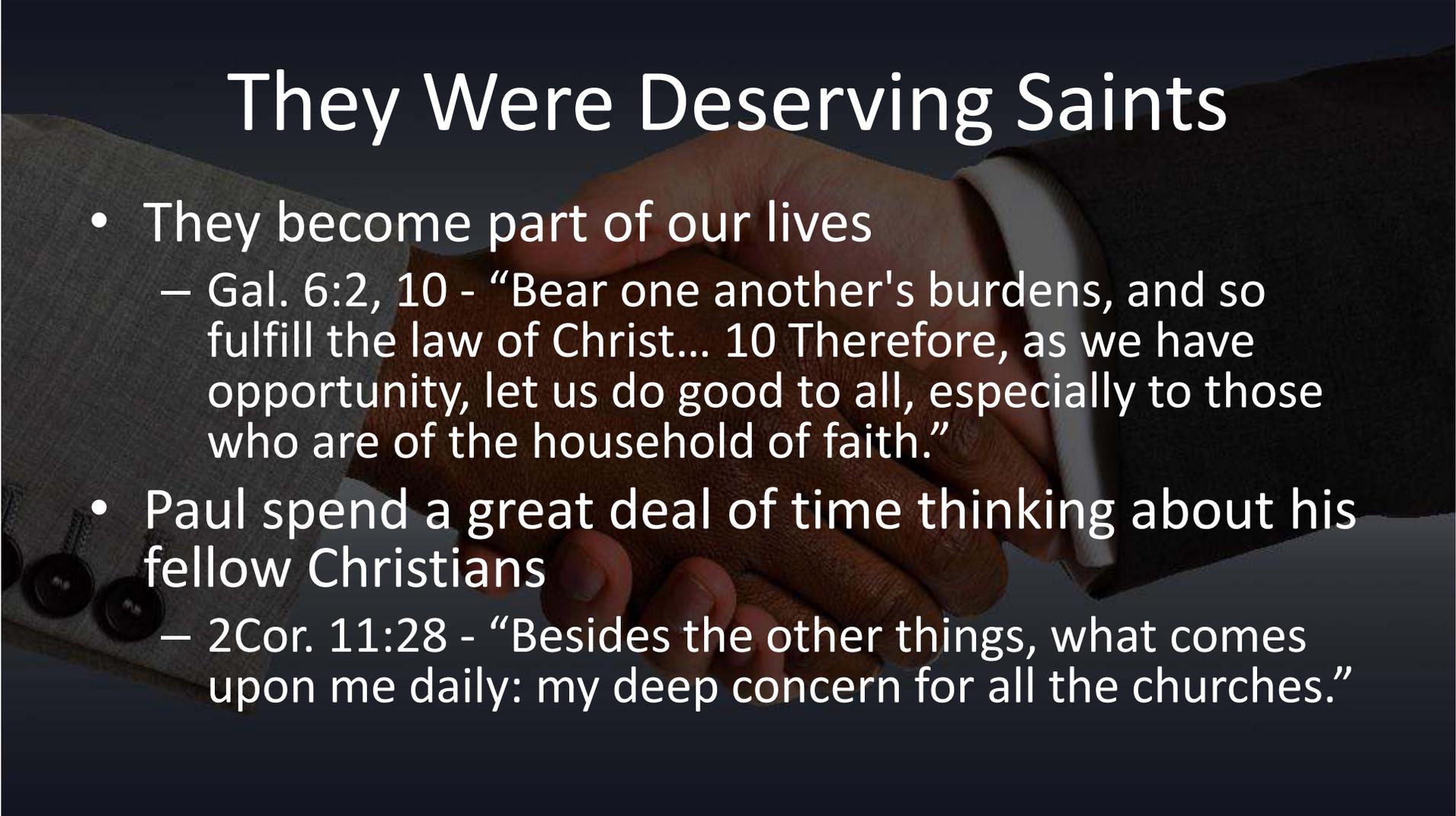
Romans 16:1-23

They Were Deserving Saints

- Paul loved all the saints of God
 - 1John 3:14 - “We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death.”
- Paul spent a great deal of time in prayer for them
 - Rom. 1:9 - “For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers”

They Were Deserving Saints

- Being one in Christ is more than just words
 - John 17:11, 20-22 - “Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are... 20 I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one”

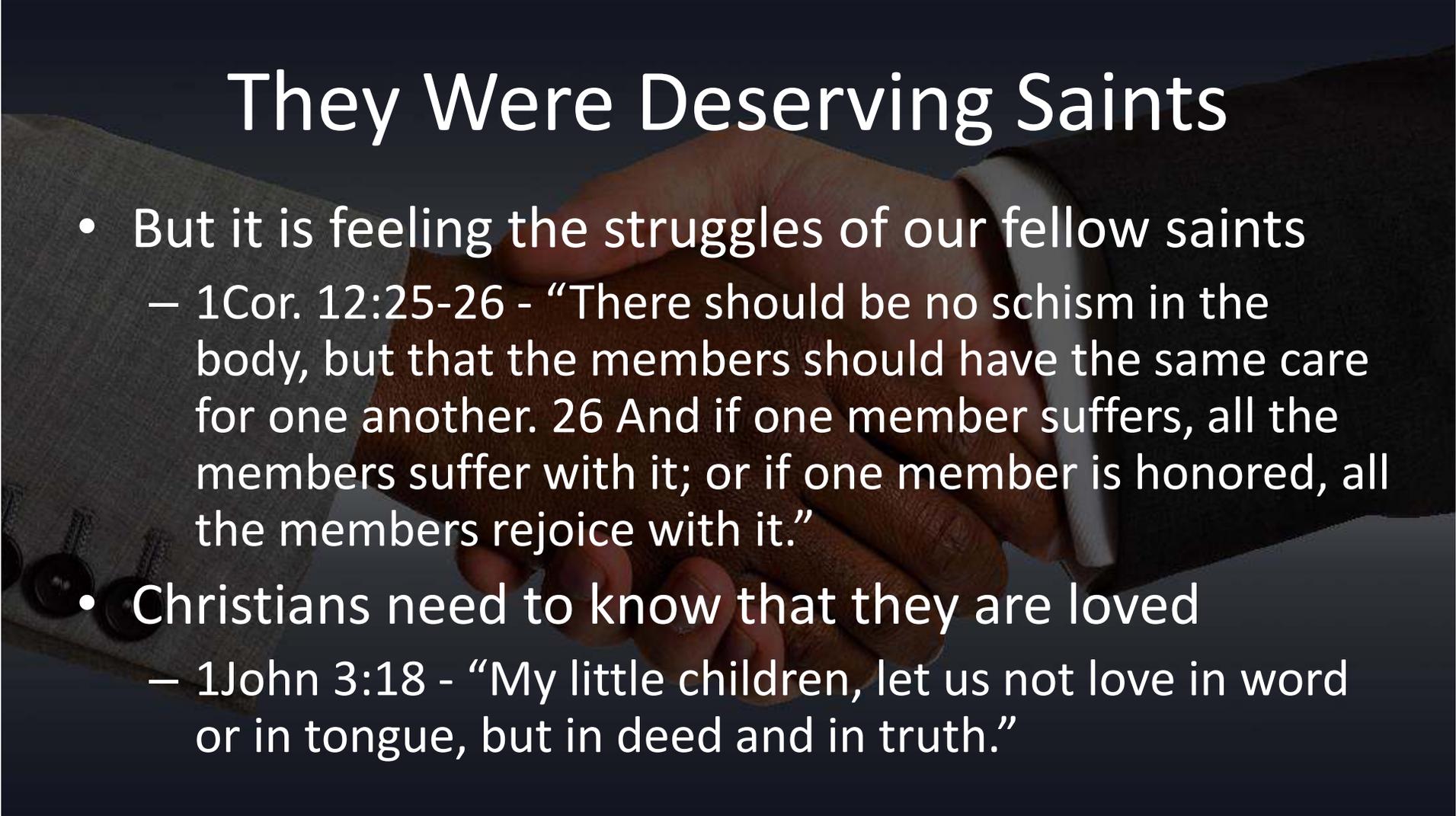


They Were Deserving Saints

- They become part of our lives
 - Gal. 6:2, 10 - “Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ... 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.”
- Paul spend a great deal of time thinking about his fellow Christians
 - 2Cor. 11:28 - “Besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.”

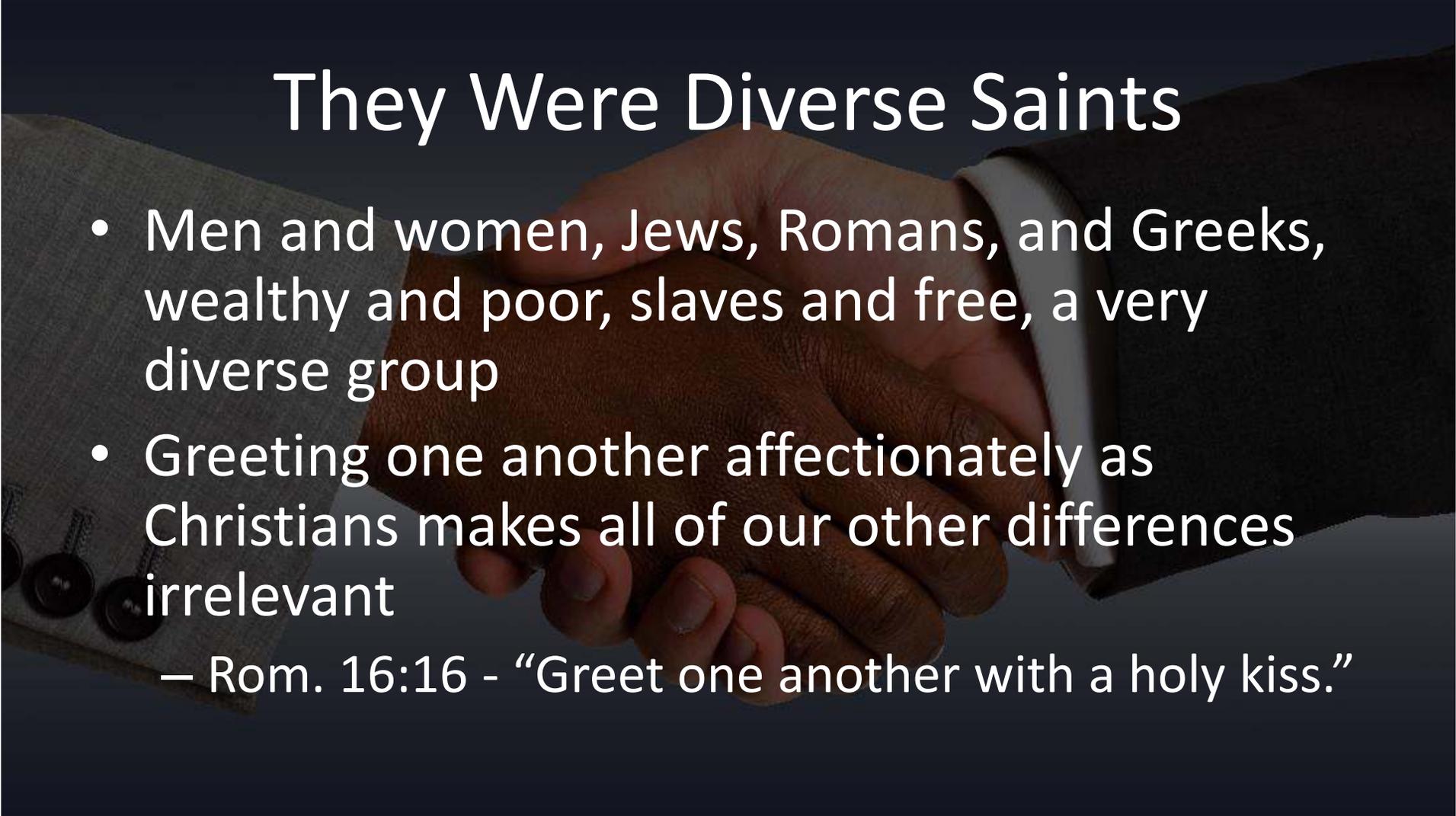
They Were Deserving Saints

- Not an unhealthy form of worry
 - Phil. 4:6 - “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God”
 - 1Peter 5:7 - “Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.”



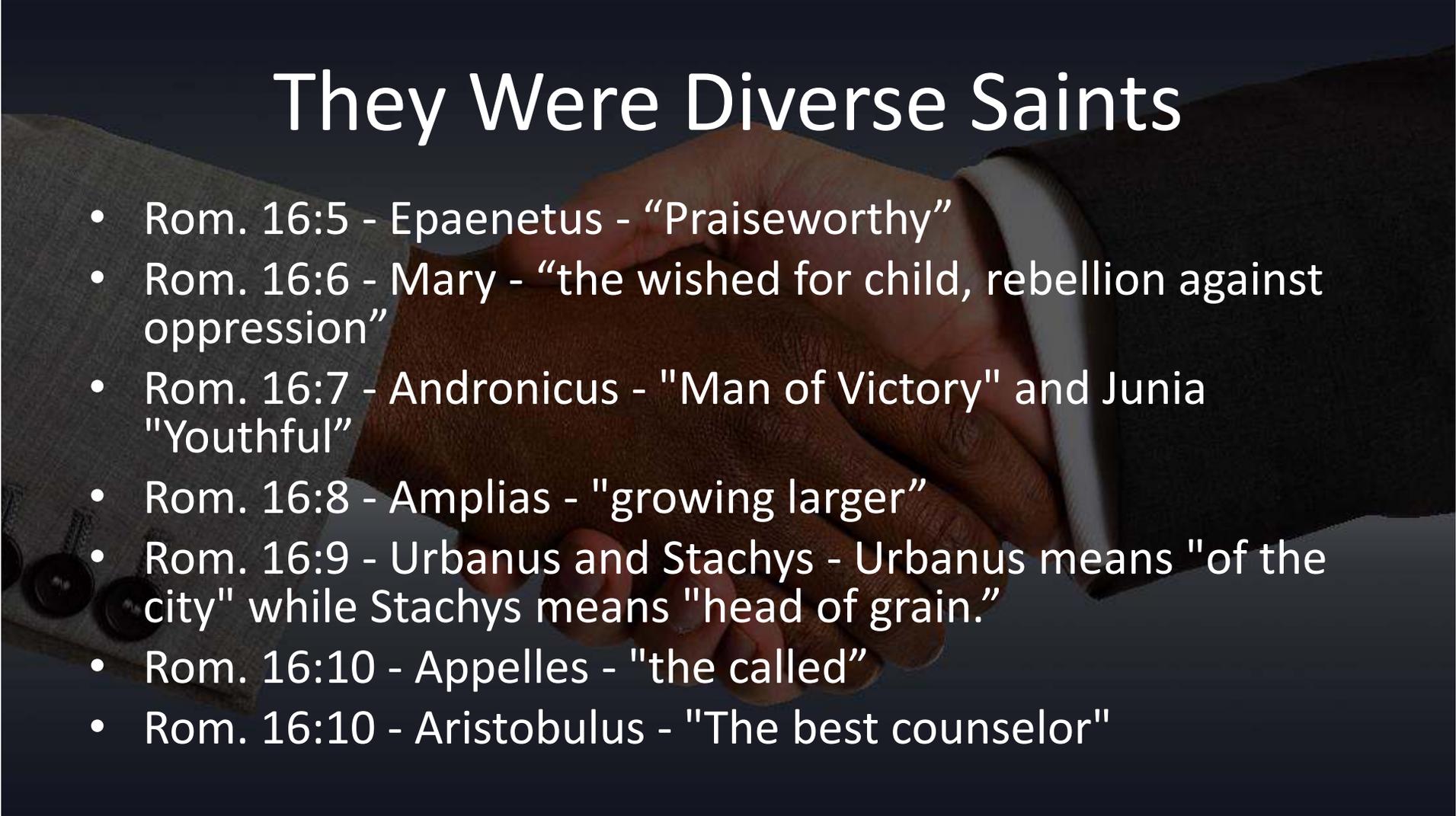
They Were Deserving Saints

- But it is feeling the struggles of our fellow saints
 - 1Cor. 12:25-26 - “There should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. 26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.”
- Christians need to know that they are loved
 - 1John 3:18 - “My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.”



They Were Diverse Saints

- Men and women, Jews, Romans, and Greeks, wealthy and poor, slaves and free, a very diverse group
- Greeting one another affectionately as Christians makes all of our other differences irrelevant
 - Rom. 16:16 - “Greet one another with a holy kiss.”



They Were Diverse Saints

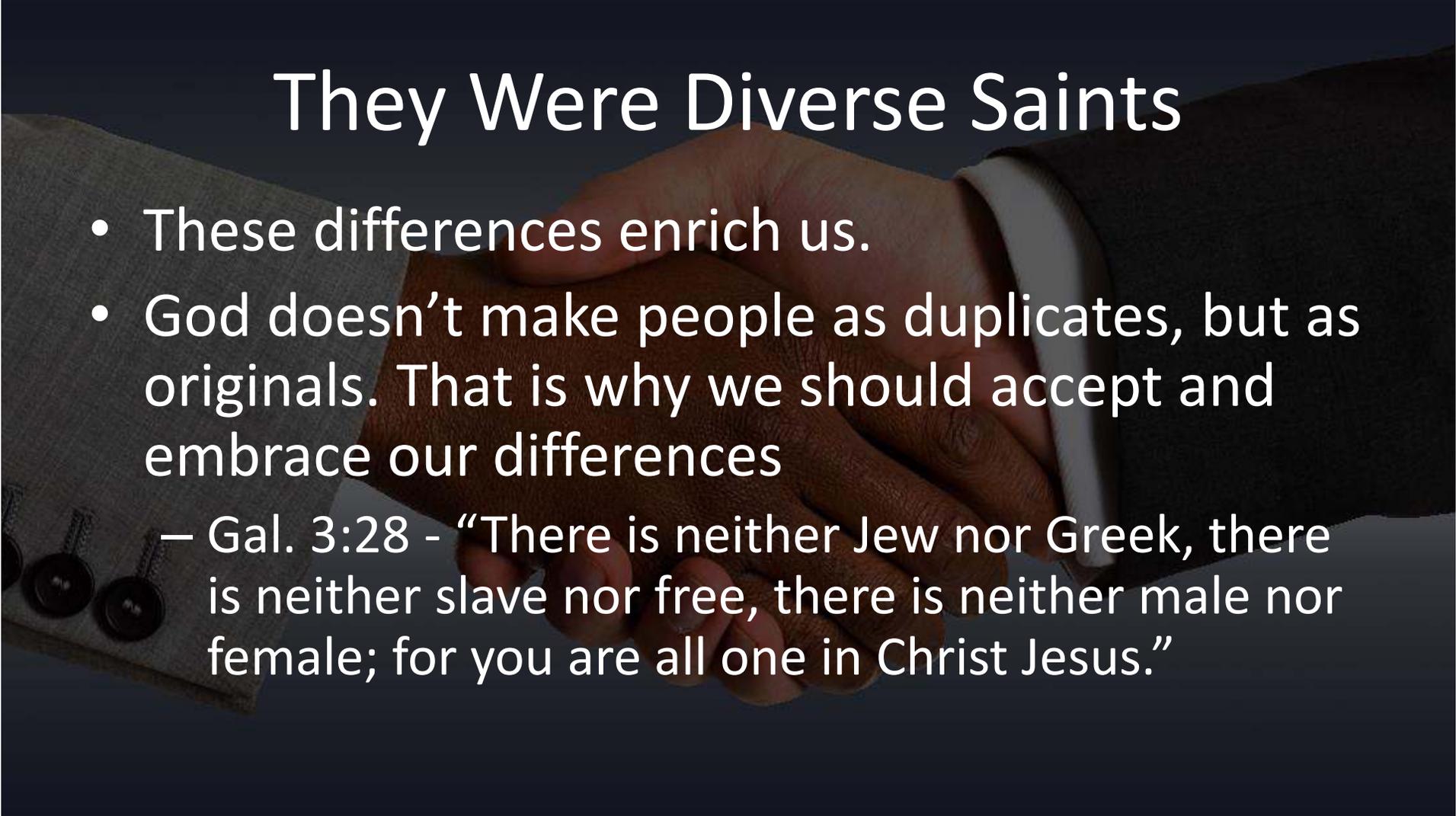
- Rom. 16:5 - Epaenetus - "Praiseworthy"
- Rom. 16:6 - Mary - "the wished for child, rebellion against oppression"
- Rom. 16:7 - Andronicus - "Man of Victory" and Junia "Youthful"
- Rom. 16:8 - Amplias - "growing larger"
- Rom. 16:9 - Urbanus and Stachys - Urbanus means "of the city" while Stachys means "head of grain."
- Rom. 16:10 - Appelles - "the called"
- Rom. 16:10 - Aristobulus - "The best counselor"

They Were Diverse Saints

- Rom. 16:11 - Herodion - "Heroic"
- Rom. 16:11 - Narcissus - "flower, daffodil, one who was in love with himself"
- Rom. 16:12 - Tryphena - "Delicate" and Tryphosa - "Dainty"
- Rom. 16:12 - Persis - "A woman of Persia"
- Rom. 16:13 - Rufus - "Red"
- Rom. 16:14 - Asyncritus - "Incomparable"; Phlegon - "Burning"; Hermas - "Mercury"; Patrobas - "Paternal"; Hermes - "The herald of the gods"

They Were Diverse Saints

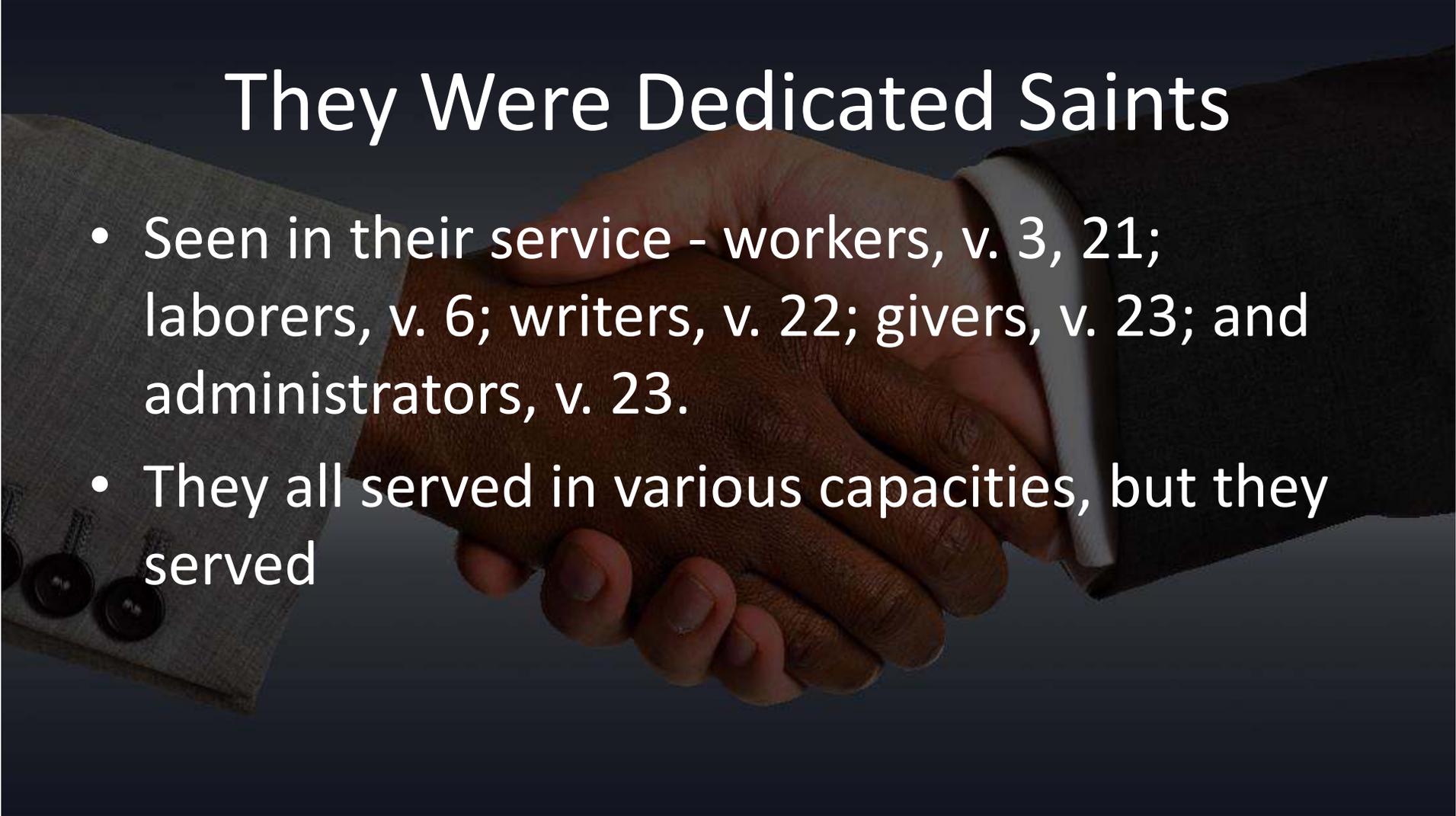
- Rom. 16:15 - Philologus - "Lover of words"; Julia - "Soft haired"; Nereus - "water" and his sister; Olympas - "Heavenly"
- Timothy, Luke, Jason, Sosipater, Tertius, Gaius, Erastus, and Quartus. His preaching companions were just as diverse in origin and background as the church at Rome
- These people were as different as possible, but they were brought together in Jesus Christ and made one family for the glory of God.



They Were Diverse Saints

- These differences enrich us.
- God doesn't make people as duplicates, but as originals. That is why we should accept and embrace our differences
 - Gal. 3:28 - “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

They Were Dedicated Saints



- Seen in their service - workers, v. 3, 21; laborers, v. 6; writers, v. 22; givers, v. 23; and administrators, v. 23.
- They all served in various capacities, but they served

They Were Dedicated Saints

- 1Cor. 12:11-18 - “But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. 12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free--and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many. 15 If the foot should say, Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body, is it therefore not of the body? 16 And if the ear should say, Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body, is it therefore not of the body? 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling? 18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.”

They Were Dedicated Saints

- Seen in their sacrifice
 - Rom. 16:3-4 - “Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.”

They Were Dedicated Saints

- 2Sam. 24:18-25 - “And Gad came that day to David and said to him, Go up, erect an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite. 19 So David, according to the word of Gad, went up as the LORD commanded. 20 Now Araunah looked, and saw the king and his servants coming toward him. So Araunah went out and bowed before the king with his face to the ground. 21 Then Araunah said, Why has my lord the king come to his servant? And David said, To buy the threshing floor from you, to build an altar to the LORD, that the plague may be withdrawn from the people. 22 Now Araunah said to David, Let my lord the king take and offer up whatever seems good to him. Look, here are oxen for burnt sacrifice, and threshing implements and the yokes of the oxen for wood. 23 All these, O king, Araunah has given to the king. And Araunah said to the king, May the LORD your God accept you. 24 Then the king said to Araunah, No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God with that which costs me nothing. So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver. 25 And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings. So the LORD heeded the prayers for the land, and the plague was withdrawn from Israel.”

They Were Dedicated Saints

- Seen in their steadfastness
 - Rom. 16:10 - “Greet Apelles, approved in Christ”
 - 1Cor. 15:58 - “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

Greeting the Saints at Rome

- Are you aware that if you are a faithful Christian, your name is also inscribed in a book that will be remembered eternally
 - Rev. 20:11-15 - “Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”